UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD 101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920 Chicago, Illinois 60606-1718

P 312,777,2055 F 312,777,2065 mackshumate@up.com

October 4, 2011

#### VIA E-FILE

The Honorable Cynthia T. Brown Chief, Section of Administration Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street, S.W., Room 100 Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Abandonment and Discontinuance of a Portion of the Lockport Branch in

Lafourche Parish, LA - STB Docket Nos. AB-318 (Sub-No. 7X) and AB-33

(Sub-No. 277X) 23/049 23/050

Dear Ms. Brown:

Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") and the Board's authorized operator of the Line, Louisiana and Delta Railroad, Inc. ("LDRR") originally anticipated filing a Petition for Exemption to abandon and discontinue service respectively, on or about January 31, 2011. In that there has been no service on the Line in well over two (2) years. UP and LDRR now anticipate filing a Notice of Exemption to abandon and discontinue service on the Line, respectively, on or after October 25, 2011.

Attached for filing in the above-referenced docket is the Combined Environmental and Historic Report ("EHR") prepared pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §1105.7 and §1105.8, with a Certificate of Service, and a transmittal letter pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §1105.11. The original EHR was served on April 7, 2009 which is more than two (2) years before the current contemplated filing date of October 25, 2011 for the subject Combined Notice of Exemption to abandon and discontinue service on the Line. After consultation with the Board, it was determined that UP and LDRR, should again file and serve the EHR pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §1105.7 and §1105.8, with a Certificate of Service and a transmittal letter pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §1105.11.

Office of Proceedings

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Part of Public Record

Yours very truly,

Mack H. Shumate, Jr. Senior General Attorney

2011\_10\_04 Ltr to STB re CEHR.doc

BUILDING AMERICA

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD 101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920 Chicago, Illinois 60606-1718

P 312.777.2055 F 312.777.2065 mackshumate@up.com

October 4, 2011

VIA E-FILE

TO: SEE ATTACHED SERVICE LIST

Re: Abandonment and Discontinuance of a Portion of the Lockport Branch in Lafourche Parish, LA – STB Docket Nos. AB-318 (Sub-No. 7X) and AB-33 (Sub-No. 277X)

To whom it may concern:

On or after October 25, 2011, Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") and Louisiana Delta Railroad, Inc. ("LDRR") expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB" or "Board") a Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon and discontinue service over, respectively, the line of railroad from Milepost 1.7 near Raceland to Milepost 14.2, near Jay, a distance of 12.5 miles, located in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana (collectively the "Line"). Attached is a Combined Environmental and Historic Report ("EHR") which describes the proposed action and any expected environmental and historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

Because it has been over two (2) years since the original EHR was served on you on April 7, 2009, UP and LDRR are again providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) at the following address, and refer to the above-referenced Docket Number:

Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA)
395 East Street, S.W., Room #100
Washington, DC 20423-0001
Telephone No.: (202) 927-6211

Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to our representative) would be appreciated within three (3) weeks.

المرايمة القرامية والمحمد مستعدم والرازان والواطن الرابي ويرازي والوراي والمرايين

Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental and/or historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact our representative directly. UP's representative in this matter is Mack H. Shumate, Jr., who may be contacted by telephone at (312) 777-2055 or by mail at 101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920, Chicago, IL 60606 and LDRR's representative in this matter is Eric M. Hockey, who may be contacted by telephone at (215) 640-8500 or via U.S. Mail at One Commerce Square, 2005 Market Street, Suite 1000, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

Yours very truly,

Mack H. Shumate, Jr. Senior General Attorney

2011\_10\_04 EHR Agency Ltr.doc

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy o the foregoing Combined Environmental and Historic Report ("EHR") in STB Docket Nos. AB-318 (Sub-No. 7X) and AB-33 (Sub-No. 277X), for discontinuance and abandonment of a portion of the Lockport Branch in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana was initially served via U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, on the 7th day of April, 2009 and subsequently served again on October 4, 2011 by either U.S. Mail, postage prepaid or by overnight delivery service on the parties listed below. For both services, the form of letter found at the Appendix to 49 C.F.R. § 1105.11 was used to transmit the EHR to the persons and governmental agencies on this service list.

Department of Transportation & Development:

Office of Planning and Research P.O. Box 94245 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

State Environmental Protection Agency:

Louisiana Environmental Protection Agency P.O. Box 4301 Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4301

State Coastal Zone Management Agency:

Coastal Management Division P.O. Box 44487 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4487

Head of each County:

Lafourche Parish Supervisors P.O. Drawer 5548 Thibodaux, LA 70302-8427

Environmental Protection Agency (Southeast Region):

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, TX 75202

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Southeast Region):

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Region 4 1875 Century Blvd. Atlanta, GA 30345 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Vicksburg District E Clay Street Vicksburg, MS 39183

**National Park Service:** 

Southeast Regional Office 75 Spring Street, Ste. 1130 Atlanta, GA 30303

**U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service:** 

Attn: Public Affairs Division P.O. Box 2890 Washington, DC 20013

**National Geodetic Survey:** 

National Geodetic Survey SSMC-3 #9202 1315 E-W Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

State Historic Preservation Office:

Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation P.O. Box 44247 Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Mack H. Shumate, Jr.

UNION

Gabe S. Meyer Appletant General Attorney

224847

April 7, 2009

## Via Facsimile and UPS Overnight

Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street, SW Washington, DC 20024

Attention: Victoria Rutson

Office of Proceedings

APR - 9 2009

Part of Public Record

Re: Abandonment and Discontinuance of a Portion of the Lockport Branch in Lafourche Parish, LA—STB Docket Nos. AB-318 (Sub-No. 7X) and AB-33 (Sub-No. 7X)

No. 277X)

Dear Ms. Rutson:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced matter are the original and ten (10) copies of Louisiana and Delta Railroad, Inc.'s and Union Pacific Railroad Company's joint Environmental and Historic Report, prepared pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Sections 1105.7 and 1105.8, with a Certificate of Service.

We anticipate filing a Petition for Exemption in this matter on or after April 27, 2009. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Gabriel S. Meyer

**Enclosures** 

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#### BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. AB-318 (Sub-No. 7X)



LOUISIANA AND DELTA RAILROAD, INC. -PETITION FOR DISCONTINUANCE EXEMPTION-IN LAFOURCHE PARISH, LA 224842 (LOCKPORT BRANCH)

Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 277X)

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

APR - 9 2009

Part of Public Record

--PETITION FOR ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION-IN LAFOURCHE PARISH, LA (LOCKPORT BRANCH)

#### Combined Environmental and Historic Report

LOUISIANA AND DELTA RAILROAD, INC. Erlo M. Hocky Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP One Commerce Square 2005 Market St. Suite 1910 Philadelphia, PA 19103 (215) 640-8500 (215) 640-8501 FAX

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY Gabriel S. Mever Assistant General Attorney 1400 Douglas Street, Mail Stop 1580 Omaha, NE 68179 (402) 544-1658 (402) 501-3393 FAX

Dated: Filed:

April 7, 2009 April 7, 2009

# BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. AB-318 (Sub-No. 7X)

LOUISIANA AND DELTA RAILROAD, INC.
--PETITION FOR DISCONTINUANCE EXEMPTION-IN LAFOURCHE PARISH, LA
(LOCKPORT BRANCH)

Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 277X)

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY
--PETITION FOR ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION-IN LAFOURCHE PARISH, LA
(LOCKPORT BRANCH)

## Combined Environmental and Historic Report

Louisiana and Delta Railroad, Inc. ("LDRR") and Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") submit this Combined Environmental and Historic Report ("EHR") pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e) and 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(d), respectively, with respect to the proposed exempt abandonment and discontinuance of a portion of a line of railroad known as the Lockport Branch. The portion of the Lockport Branch proposed for abandonment and discontinuance (the "Line") extends from Milepost 1.7 near Raceland to Milepost 14.2 near Jay, a distance of 12.5 miles in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. The Line traverses U.S. Postal Service zip codes 70374 and 70394. LDRR and UP anticipate that they will file a joint Petition for Exemption for LDRR to discontinue its lease operation over, and for UP to abandon, the Line on or after April 27, 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> No environmental or historic report is required with respect to the proposed discontinuance by LDRR, See Norfolk Southern Reliway Company - Discontinuance of Service Exemption - In St. Joseph and

A map of the Line (Attachment No. 1) and UP's letter to federal, state and local government agencies (Attachment No. 2) are attached to this EHR. Responses received thus far to UP's letters are also attached.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)

(1) Proposed action and alternatives. Describe the proposed action, including commodities transported, the planned disposition (if any) of any rall line and other structures that may be involved, and any possible changes in current operations or maintenance practices. Also describe any reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Include a readable, detailed map and drawings clearly delineating the project.

Response: LDRR and UP plan to respectively discontinue lease operations and abandon a portion of the Lockport Branch (collectively referred to as the "Proposed Action"). The Line that is the subject of the Proposed Action extends from Milepost 1.7 near Raceland to Milepost 14.2 near Jay, a distance of 12.5 miles in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. A map of the Line is attached as Attachment No. 1. LDRR has been the Line's sole operator since 1992, pursuant to a lease agreement with UP.

The line is currently constructed with 113-pound welded rail from Milepost 1.7 to Milepost 3. The balance of the Line, from Milepost 3 to Milepost 14.15, is constructed with 75-pound and 70-pound jointed rail. The date the rail was put in place is unknown.

The right-of-way proposed for abandonment is not suitable for other public purposes, including use as a recreational trail, given the availability of other infrastructure in the area. The Line includes reversionary property interests which could affect the transfer of title or use of the property for other than railroad purposes. Based upon information in UP's possession, the Line does not contain any federally granted

LaPorte Counties, iN, STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 307X) (served June 18, 2008), Everett Railroad Company – Discontinuance of Service Exemption – in Bieir County, PA, STB Docket No. AB-721X (served November 16, 2007); Columbus and Greenville Railway Company – Discontinuance of Service Exemption – In Greenwood, MS, STB Docket No. AB-297 (Sub-No. 103X) (served July 2, 2007).

right-of-way. Any documentation in UP's possession will be made available to those requesting it.

After the Proposed Action, the closest rail service will be provided via the remaining portion of LDRR's Lockport Branch at Raceland, LA, which connects with the Line that is the subject of the Proposed Action at Milepost 1.7. All population centers along the Line are served by State Highways 1 and 308, which parallel the Line. Both roads intersect with U.S. Highway 90 approximately one mile southeast of Raceland, LA. There is a team track in Raceland, which could be used to serve customers not directly served by rail, and rail service is also available via UP and BNSF Railway Company, whose joint line passes approximately 1.5 miles north of the beginning of the abandonment limits. Additionally, barge service is available in the region.

(2) Transportation System. Describe the effects of the proposed action on regional or local transportation systems and patterns. Estimate the amount of traffic (passenger or freight) that will be diverted to other transportation systems or modes as a result of the proposed action.

Response: LDRR and UP do not expect that abandonment of the Line will result in any impact upon regional or local transportation systems and patterns. LDRR anticipates that there will be little, if any, future demand for service on the Line. During 2008, the last full year of operations, a total of three (3) railcars moved over the Line.

#### (3) Land Use.

(i) Based on consultation with local and/or regional planning agencies and/or a review of the official planning documents prepared by such agencies, state whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Describe any inconsistencies.

- (ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, state the effect of the proposed action on any prime agricultural land.
- (iii) If the action affects land or water uses within a designated coastal zone, include the coastal zone information required by 49 C.F.R. § 1105.9.
- (iv) If the proposed action is an abandonment, state whether or not the right-of-way is suitable for alternative public use under 49 U.S.C. § 10905 and explain why.

#### Response:

- (i) LDRR and UP are unaware of any adverse effects on local and existing land use plans. UP has contacted the office of the Lafourche Parish Supervisors. To date, UP has not received a response regarding the effects on local and existing land use plans.
- (ii) UP has contacted the Natural Resources Conservation Service ("NRCS"). To date.
  UP has not received a response.
- (iii) UP has contacted the Louislana Office of Coastal Restoration and Management. In a response dated March 6, 2009, the Office Informed UP that the Proposed Action falls outside the Coastal Zone, and will have no significant Impacts upon it. A copy of the response is attached as Attachment 3.
- (iv) The right-of-way is not suitable for public or alternative use, given the existence of well-developed public infrastructure in the area.

#### (4) Energy.

- (i) Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources.
- (ii) Describe the effect of the proposed action on recyclable commodities.
- (iii) State whether the proposed action will result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency and explain why.
- (iv) If the proposed action will cause diversions from rail to motor carriage of more than:

- (A) 1,000 rall carloads a year, or
- (B) an average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year for any part of the affected line, quantify the resulting net change in energy consumption and show the data and methodology used to arrive at the figure given.

## Response:

- (i) There are no effects on the transportation of energy resources, as LDRR anticipates that there will be little, if any, future demand for service on the Line.
- (ii) There are no recyclable commodities moved over the Line.
- (iii) There will be no change in energy consumption from the proposed action, as LDRR anticipates that there will be little, if any, future demand for service on the Line.

  (iv)(A)(B) LDRR does not anticipate that there will be significant rail-to-motor diversion, as LDRR anticipates that there will be little, if any, future demand for service on the Line.
- (5) Air. (i) If the proposed action will result in either:
  - (A) an increase in rail traffic of at least 100% (measured in gross ton miles annually) or an increase of at least eight trains a day on any segment of rall line affected by the proposal, or
  - (B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 100% (measured by carload activity), or
  - (C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10% of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on any affected road segment, quantify the anticipated effect on air emissions. For a proposal under 49 U.S.C. §10901 (or §10505) to construct a new line or reinstitute service over a previously abandoned line, only the eight train a day provision in subsection (5)(I)(A) will apply.

Response: LDRR and UP do not anticipate any such effects, as LDRR anticipates that there will be little, if any, future demand for service on the Line.

- (5) Air. (ii) If the proposed action affects a class 1 or nonattainment area under the Clean Air Act, and will result in either:
  - (A) an Increase in rail traffic of at least 50% (measured in gross ton miles annually) or an increase of at least three trains a day on any segment of rail line, or
  - (B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 20% (measured by carload activity), or
  - (C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10% of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on a given road segment, then state whether any expected increased emissions are within the parameters established by the State Implementation Plan. However, for a rail construction under 49 U.S.C. §10901 (or 49 U.S.C. §10505), or a case involving the reinstitution of service over a previously abandoned line. only the three train a day threshold in this item shall apply.

Response: There will be no significant, if any, increase in rail traffic, rail yard activity. or truck traffic as a result of the Proposed Action, as LDRR anticipates that there will be little, if any, future demand for service on the Line

(5) Air. (iii) If transportation of ozone depleting materials (such as nitrogen oxide and freon) is contemplated, identify: the materials and quantity; the frequency of service: safety practices (including any speed restrictions); the applicant's safety record (to the extent available) on derailments, accidents and spills; contingency plans to deal with accidental spills; and the likelihood of an accidental release of ozone depleting materials in the event of a collision or derailment.

Response: The Proposed Action will not affect the transportation of ozone depleting materials, as LDRR anticipates that there will be little, if any, future demand for service on the Line.

- (6) Noise. If any of the thresholds identified in Item (5)(I) of this section are surpassed, state whether the proposed action will cause:
  - (i) an incremental increase in noise levels of three decibels. Ldn or more or
  - (ii) an increase to a noise level of 65 decibels Ldn or greater. If so, identify sensitive receptors (e.g., schools, libraries, hospitals, residences, retirement communities, and nursing homes) in the project area and quantify the noise increase for these receptors if the thresholds are surpassed.

Response: Not applicable.

#### (7) Safety.

- (i) Describe any effects of the proposed action on public health and safety (including vehicle delay time at railroad grade crossings).
- (ii) If hazardous materials are expected to be transported, identify: the materials and quantity; the frequency of service; whether chemicals are being transported that, if mixed, could react to form more hazardous compounds; safety practices (including any speed restrictions), the applicant's safety record (to the extent available) on derailments, accidents and hazardous spills; the contingency plans to deal with accidental spills; and the likelihood of an accidental release of hazardous materials.
- (iii) If there are any known hazardous waste sites or sites where there have been known hazardous materials splits on the right-of-way, identify the location of those sites and the types of hazardous materials involved.

Response: (I) The Proposed Action will have no detrimental effects on public health and safety.

(ii) The Proposed Action will not affect the transportation of hazardous materials, as LDRR anticipates that there will be little, if any, future demand for service on the Line.

(iii) There are no known hazardous materials waste sites or locations where known hazardous material spills have occurred on or along the Line's right-of-way.

#### (8) Biological resources.

- (i) Based on consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, state whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects.
- (ii) State whether wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests will be affected, and describe any effects.

Response: (i) UP has contacted the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In a response dated February 12, 2009, the agency informed UP that the Proposed Action will have no impact upon Federal trust resources. A copy of the response is attached as Attachment 4.

(ii) UP has contacted the National Park Service. To date, UP has not received a response.

#### (9) Water.

- (i) Based on consultation with State water quality officials, state whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.
- (ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, state whether permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1344) are required for the proposed action and whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects.
- (iii) State whether permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1342) are required for the proposed action (Applicants should contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or the state

environmental protection or equivalent agency if they are unsure whether such permits are required.)

Response: (i) UP has contacted the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office. To date, UP has not received a response.

- (ii) UP has contacted the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. To date, UP has not received a response.
- (iii) UP does not anticipate that there will be any requirements for Section 402 permits. UP has contacted the Louisiana Environmental Protection Agency. To date, UP has not received a response.
- (10) Proposed Mitigation. Describe any actions that are proposed to mitigate adverse environmental impacts, indicating why the proposed mitigation is appropriate

Response: There are no known adverse environmental impacts.

### HISTORIC REPORT 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(d)

(1) A U.S.G.S. topographic map (or an alternate map drawn to scale and sufficiently detailed to show buildings and other structures in the vicinity of the proposed action) showing the location of the proposed action, and the locations and approximate dimensions of railroad structures that are 50 years old or older and are part of the proposed action:

Response: See the Attachment 1 map and the UP's letter to the Louisiana State
Historical Society ("SHPO") attached as Attachment 5.

(2) A written description of the right-of-way (including approximate widths to the extent known), and the topography and urban and/or rural characteristics of the surrounding area:

Response: Most of the Line's right-of-way is 50 feet wide, while certain sections are 75 feet wide. The Line passes through a combination of residential, industrial, commercial, and agricultural areas. The Line's topography is generally level.

(3) Good quality photographs (actual photographic prints, not photocopies) of railroad structures on the property that are 50 years old or older and of the immediately surrounding area:

Response: UP has provided the SHPO with photographs of each of the structures on the property that are 50 years old or older. A copy of the letter to the SHPO and photographs is attached as Attachment 5. To date, UP has not received a response from the SHPO.

(4) The date(s) of construction of the structure(s), and the date(s) and extent of any major alterations to the extent such information is known:

Response: See UP's letter to the SHPO (Attachment 5).

(5) A brief narrative history of carrier operations in the area, and an explanation of what, if any, changes are contemplated as a result of the proposed action:

Response: The portion of the Line from Raceland to Lockport, LA (near Milepost 9) was constructed by Morgan's Louisiana and Texas Railroad and Steamship Company in 1892. The portion from near Milepost 9 to the end of the Line near Jay, LA was constructed in 1930 by the same company. LDRR and UP propose to discontinue service over and abandon the Line as a result of the Proposed Action.

- (5) A brief summary of documents in the carrier's possession, such as engineering drawings, that might be useful in documenting a structure that is found to be historic:

  Response: UP does not have any relevant documentation.
- (7) An opinion (based on readily available information in the UP's possession) as to whether the site and/or structures meet the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (36 C.F.R. § 60.4), and whether there is a likelihood of archeological resources or any other previously unknown historic proparties in the project area, and the basis for these opinions (including any consultations with the State Historic Preservation Office, local historical societies or universities):

Response: At this time, UP knows of no historic sites or structures or archeological resources in the project area. As noted in UP's letter to the SHPO (Attachment 5), the Line includes two bridges that are more than 50 years old.

(8) A description (based on readily available information in the railroad's possession) of any known prior subsurface ground disturbance or fill, environmental conditions (naturally occurring or manmade) that might affect the archeological recovery of resources (such as swampy conditions or the presence of toxic wastes), and the surrounding terrain.

Response: UP does not have any such readily available information.

(9) Within 30 days of receipt of the historic report, the State Historic Preservation Officer may request the following additional information regarding specified non-reilroad owned properties or groups of properties immediately adjacent to the railroad right-of-way. Photographs of specified properties that can be readily seen from the railroad right-of-way (or other public rights-of-way adjacent to the property) and a written description of any previously discovered archeological sites, identifying the locations and type of the site (i.e., prehistoric or native American):

Response: Not applicable.

Dated this 7th day of April 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

LOUISIANA AND DELTA RAILROAD, INC.

Eric M. Hocky

Thorp Read & Armstrong, LLP One Commerce Square

2005 Market St, Suite 1910

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Brakil N.

(215) 640-8500

(215) 640-8501 FAX

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

Gabriel S. Meyer

Assistant General Attorney

1400 Douglas Street, Mall Stop 1580

Omaha, Nebraska 68179

(402) 544-1658

(402) 501-3393 FAX

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing Combined Environmental and Historic Report ("EHR") in STB Docket Numbers AB-318 (Sub-No. 7X) and AB-33 (Sub-No. 277X), for discontinuance and abandonment of a portion of the Lockport Branch in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana was served by first class mail, postage prepaid, on the 7th day of April, 2009 on the parties listed below. The form letter contained in the Appendix to 49 C.F.R Section 1105.11 was used to transmit the EHR

Department of Transportation & Development Office of Planning and Research PO Box 94245 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

State Environmental Protection Agency: Louisiens Environmental Protection Agency PO Box 4301 Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4301

State Constal Zone Management Agency: Cosstal Management Division PO Box 44487 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4487

Head of each County: Lafourche Parish Supervisors PO Drawer 5548 Thibodaux, LA 70302-8427

Environmental Protection Agency (Southeast Region): U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 1445 Ross Avenua Dallas, TX 75202

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Southeast Region 4 1675 Century Bivd Atlanta, GA 30345 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District E. Clay Street Vicksburg, MS 39183

National Park Service: Southeast Regional Office 75 Spring Street, Ste. 1130 Atlanta, GA 30303

U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service: Aitn: Public Affairs Division PO Box 2890 Washington, DC 20013

National Geodetic Survey: National Geodetic Survey SSMC-3 #9202 1315 E-W Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

State Historic Preservation Office: Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation PO Box 44247 Baton Rauge, LA 70804

Gabriel S. Meyer

#### **Attachment 2**



January 30, 2009

Department of Transportation & Development Office of Planning and Research PO Box 94245 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

State Environmental Protection Agency: Louisians Environmental Protection Agency PO Box 4301 Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4301

State Coastal Zone Management Agency (if applicable): Coastal Management Division PO Box 44487 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4487

Head of each County: Lafourche Parish Supervisors PO Drawer 5548 Thibodaux, LA 70302-8427

Environmental Protection Agency (Southeast Region): U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 1445 Ross Avenus Dallas, TX 75202

U.S. Fish and Wildlife: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Southeast Region 4 1876 Century Blvd Atlanta, GA 30345 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vickeburg District E. Clay Street Vickeburg, MS 39183

National Perk Service: Southeast Regional Office 75 Spring Street, Sts. 1130 Atlanta, GA 30303

U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service: Attn: Public Affeire Division PO Box 2820 Washington, DC 20013

National Geodetic Survey: National Geodetic Survey SSMC-3 #9202 1315 E-W Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

State Historic Preservation Office: 6801 St Charles Avenue New Orleans, LA 70115

Re: Proposed Discontinuance of Leased Operations and Abandonment of the Lockport Branch from Milepost 1.7 near the City of Raceland to Milepost 14.2 near the City of Jay, a distance of 12.6 miles in Lafourche Parish, Louis'ana; STB Docket No. AB-318 (Sub-No. 7X) and AB-33 (Sub-No. 277X).

#### Dear Sirs

Louisiana & Delta Radroad ("LDR") and Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") plan to request authority from the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") to respectively discontinue lease operations on and

abandon the Lockport Branch from Milepost 1.7 new State City of Received to Milepost 14.2 near the City of Jay, a distance of 12.5 miles in Latourche Parish, it will be a Map of the line is attached.

This letter supersedes a previous letter that UP sent you on January 14, 2009 addressing the same proposed actions. The January 14 letter inadvertently referenced incorrect docket numbers and did not refer to the appropriate parish and state.

Pursuant to the STB's regulations at 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, and the environmental regulations at 40 C.F. R. Part 1105.7, this is to again request your assistance in identifying any potential effects of this action as indicated in the paragraphs below. We do not anticipate any adverse environmental impacts. However, if you identify any adverse environmental impacts impacts, describe any actions that are proposed in order to mitigate the environmental impacts. Please provide us with a written response that can be included in an Environmental Report, which will be sent to the STB.

LOCAL AND/OR REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES State whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Describe any inconsistencies.

<u>U.S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE</u>. State the effect of the proposed action on any prime agricultural land.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (And State Game And Parks Commission, if Addressed). State (1) whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or cress designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects, and, (2) whether writing senctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests will be affected, and describe any effects.

STATE WATER QUALITY OFFICIALS. State whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or Local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.

<u>U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS.</u> State (1) whether permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S. C. § 1344) are required for the proposed action and (2) whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects

US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AND STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (OR <u>EQUIVALENT AGENCY</u>). (1) Identify any potential effects on the surrounding area, (2) Identify the location of hazardous waste sites and known hazardous material spills on the right-of-way and list the types of hazardous materials involved, and (3) state whether permits under Section 402 of the Clean Weter Act (33 U S C § 1342) are required for the proposed action.

Thank you for your sasistance. Please send your reply to the undersigned if you need further information, please contact me at (402) 544-1643.

Sincerely.

Collega K Granam

Paralegal |

Union Pacific Railroad Law Department

1400 Douglas St. Stop 1580

Omaha, NE 68179 (w) 402-544-1643

carehem@up.com Enclosure(s)



#### Attachment 3

BONSY JINDAL SOMESVOS

# SCOTT A. ANGELLE

# State of Louisiana

# DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE OF COASTAL RESTORATION AND MANAGEMENT

March 6, 2009

Colleen K. Graham
Paralogal, Union Pacific Reilroad
Law Department
1400 Douglas Street
Stop 1580
Omaha, Nebraska 68179

RE: C20090107, Coastal Zone Consistency

Union Pacific Railroad Surface Transportation Board Federal Liceuse or Permit

Abandonment of 12.5 miles of railroad track near Raceland

STB Docket No. AB-318 (Sub-No. 7X)

Lafourche Parish, Louisiana

Dear Ms. Graham:

The above referenced project has been reviewed for consistency with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program as required in Section 307 (c) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended. It has been determined that the captioned project falls outside the Coastal Zone and has no significant effects on the Coastal Zone. The project, therefore, requires no formal consistency review and this Department has no objection.

It should be noted that another project in the same area may be deemed to impose the Coastal Zone and require consistency review. For this reason we request that you continue to submit applications to this Department for any other projects in the area. If you have any questions concerning this determination please contact Carol Crapanzano of the Consistency Section at (225) 342-9425 or 1-800-267-4019.

Sincerely,

Jim Rives

Administrator

JR/JDH/cmc · ...

c: David Butler, LDWP

Environmental Analysis Section, Surface Transportation Board

Coastal Management Division \* Post Office Box 44487 \* Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4487

(225) 342-7591 • Fex (225) 342-9439 • http://www.dnr.state.la.us

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#### RECEIVED FEB 0 3 2009

#### Attachment 4





FEB 0 9 2009

FISH & WLDL. SERV LAFAYETTE, LA.



Law Department

January 30, 2009

Department of Transportation & Development Office of Planning and Research PO Box 94245 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

State Environmental Protection Agency: Louisiana Environmental Protection Agency PO Box 4301 Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4301

State Coastal Zone Management Agency (if applicable): Coastal Management Division PO Box 44487 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4487

Head of each County: Lafourche Parish Supervisors PO Drawer 5548 Thibodaux, LA 70302-8427

Environmental Protection Agency (Southeast Region): U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, TX 75202

U.S. Fish and Wildlife: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Southeast Region 4 1875 Century Blvd Allanta, GA 30345 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg Distinct E. Clay Street Vicksburg, MS 39183

National Park Service: Southeast Regional Office 75 Spring Street, Ste 1130 Atlanta, GA 30303

U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service: Attn: Public Affairs Division PO Box 2890 Washington, DC 20013

National Geodetic Survey: National Geodetic Survey SSMC-3 #9202 1315 E-W Highway Silver Spring, MD 20810-3282

State Historic Preservation Office:
5801 St. Charles Avenue
This particular streets to Federal trust resources

urder our Erisdiction and currently protected by the Endangered Species Ant of 1973 (Aut). The project, as proposed, R/ Will have no effect on those resources

( ) is not likely to adversely affect those resources.

This finding fulfil's the resultanguage under Section 7(a)(2) of the Act

Acting Supervisor - . . . Louisians Field Office

J B. Fish and W.di.fe Service

Re: Proposed Discontinuance of Leased Operations and Abandonment of the Lockport Branch from Milepost 1.7 near the City of Receiand to Milepost 14.2 near the City of Jay, a distance of 12.5 miles in Lefourche Parish, Louisiane; STB Dooket No. AB-318 (Sub-No. 7X) and AB-33 (Sub-No. 277X).

Dear Sire

Louisiana & Delta Railroad ("LDR") and Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") plan to request authority from the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") to respectively discontinue lease operations on and

abandon the Lockport Branch from Milepost 1.7 near the City of Received to Milepost 14.2 near the City of Jav. a distance of 12.5 miles in Lafourche Panish, Louisians. A map of the line is attached.

This letter supersedes a previous letter that UP sent you on January 14, 2009 addressing the same proposed actions. The January 14 letter inadvertently referenced incorrect docket numbers and did not refer to the appropriate parish and state.

Pursuant to the STB's regulations at 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, and the environmental regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 1105.7, this is to again request your assistance in identifying any potential effects of this action as indicated in the paragraphs below. We do not anticipate any adverse environmental impacts. However, if you identify any adverse environmental impacts, describe any actions that are proposed in order to mitigate the environmental impacts. Please provide us with a written response that can be included in an Environmental Report, which will be sent to the STB

<u>LOCAL AND/OR REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES</u>. State whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Describe any inconsistencies.

<u>U.S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE</u> State the effect of the proposed action on any prime agricultural land

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (And State Game And Parks Commission, if Addressed). State (1) whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects, and, (2) whether wildlife senctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests will be affected, and describe any effects

STATE WATER QUALITY OFFICIALS. State whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or Local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS. State (1) whether permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S. C. § 1344) are required for the proposed action and (2) whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AND STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (OR EQUIVALENT AGENCY). (1) identify any potential effects on the surrounding area, (2) identify the location of hazardous waste sites and known hazardous material spills on the right-of-way and list the types of hazardous materials involved, and (3) state whether permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1342) are required for the proposed action.

Thank you for your assistance. Please send your reply to the undersigned. If you need further information, please contact me at (402) 544-1643.

Sincerely.

Colleen K. Graham

Paralega!

Union Pacific Railroad

Law Department

1400 Douglas St

Stop 1580

Omaha, NE 68179

(w) 402-544-1843

careham@up.com

Enclosure(s)

#### **Attachment 5**



January 30, 2009

Louisiane State Historical Society 5801 St. Charles Avenue New Orleans, LA 70:15

Re:

Proposed Discontinuance of Lessed Operations and Abandonment of the Lockport Branch from Mile Post 1.7 near the City of Raceland to Villepost 14.2 near the City of Jay, a distance of 12.5 miles in Lafourche Parish, Louisians, STB Docket No. AB-318x (Sub No. 7X) and AB-33 (Sub No. 277X),

#### Dear Sir.

On January 14, 2009, UP sent you a letter concerning plens to request from the STB to abandon (UP) and discontinue lease operations (LDR) on the Lockport Branch from Mile Post 1.7 near the City of Received to Milepost 14.2 near the City of Jay, a distance of 12.5 miles in Lafourche Parish, Louisiane. The letter referenced the incorrect docket numbers and inadvertently did not refer to the appropriate parish and state.

Enclosed for your review ere photographs of below listed bridges. Also enclosed is a map of the proposed shandonment. The bridges are as follows

Milepost	Description	Length	Year Constructed
2,5	Deck Plate Girder, Open Deck	94*	Unknown
8.71	Deck Plate Girder, Open Deck	97'	Unknown

Please advise if there is any historical significance to these bridges.

Sincerely

Colleen K. Grahem

Parziegzi

Union Pacific Railroad

Law Department

1400 Douglas St., Stop 1680

Orraha, NE 88179 (w) 402-544-1643 (f) 402-501-0132 ograham@up.com Enclosure(s)















